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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/827,283	04/04/2001	Daniel Hallihan	PA1601US	6623

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, NGA B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3628

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/827,283	HALLIHAN, DANIEL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nga B. Nguyen	3628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7-13,15-21 and 23-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7-13,15-21 and 23-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on April 14, 2005 has been entered.
2. Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-21 and 23-49 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments/Amendment

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-21 and 23-49 have been considered but are moot in view of new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-21 and 23-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swart, U.S. Patent No. 6,347,306, in view of Kahn et al (hereinafter Kahn), U.S. Patent No. 6,401,079.

Regarding to claim 1, Swart discloses a machine-readable medium having embodied thereon a software interconnectivity program, the program being executable by an electronic device to perform method steps for interfacing and interconnecting data between one or more independent software applications, comprising the steps of:

receiving the data into a data entry panel of the electronic device (column 3, lines 5-25 and column 9, line 48-column 10, line 10; inputting the time and attendance information and the human resource information using input terminals into the employee data client computer system);

sending the data to an interconnectivity program module (column 3, lines 30-35 and column 9, lines 60-62; column 10, lines 7-9; sending the time and attendance information and the human resource information into the database 160); and

interfacing the data to one or more independent software applications for processing of the data by the applications (column 3, lines 25-30, 38-47; column 9, lines 1-23 and column 10, lines 10-20; the payroll client 130 is provided with an independent payroll software called Payroll JavaBean 132 which retrieves the data from the database 160 in order to calculate net work segment pay for each work segment completed by the employee).

Swart does not teach wherein one of said independent software applications is an accounts payable program. However, Kahn teaches wherein one of said independent software applications is an accounts payable program (column 5, lines 47-60; the employees could elect to use the system as the centralized bill payment system; column 12, lines 45-60 and column 20, lines 34-45). Therefore, it would have been

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obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Swart to adopt the teaching of Kahn above for the purpose of providing more convenient and time consuming for the employee in making payments to the particular payees because the process is automatically done by the system.

Regarding to claim 2, Swart further discloses verifying the data by comparing to a plurality of predetermined audit criteria before interfacing the data to the software applications (column 6, lines 43-53; verifying whether the earnings codes are used for jury duty, overtime, etc. and whether the absence codes are used for annual leave, sick leave, maternity leave, etc.).

Regarding to claim 3, Swart further discloses storing and retrieving the data in a database of the interconnectivity program module (column 9, lines 60-62; column 10, lines 7-9, 13-15).

Regarding to claim 4, Swart further discloses converting the data to a file format that is compatible with the software applications after interfacing the data to the software applications (column 6, lines 41-53; converting the data into a universal format understandable by the payroll processing system).

Regarding to claim 5, Swart further discloses one of the independent software applications is a payroll-processing program (column 3, lines 25-30; payroll software object).

Regarding to claim 7, Swart further discloses one of the independent software applications is a project management program (column 3, lines 7-10; human resource software object).

Regarding to claim 8, Swart further discloses one of the independent software applications is a billing program (column 54-65; the third party client computer system is operated to calculate the deductions).

Regarding to claim 9, Swart discloses a data processing system for interfacing and interconnecting data between one or more independent software applications, comprising:

- one or more data entry panels for receiving data into the system (column 3, lines 5-25; input terminal of the employee data client computer for entering time and attendance information and human resource information);

- one or more processors coupled to the system (figure 3, the employee data client computer 110, the third party client computer 120, the payroll client computer 130);

- one or more independent software applications executable on the processors (column 3, lines 5-37; time and attendance software object, human resource software object executed at the employee data client computer; payroll software object executed at the payroll client computer).

Swart does not teach wherein one of said independent software applications is an accounts payable program. However, Kahn teaches wherein one of said independent software applications is an accounts payable program (column 5, lines 47-60; the employees could elect to use the system as the centralized bill payment system; column 12, lines 45-60 and column 20, lines 34-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Swart to adopt the teaching of Kahn above for the purpose of providing more

convenient and time consuming for the employee in making payments to the particular payees because the process is automatically done by the system.

Claims 10-13, 15,16 contain similar limitations found in claims 2-5, 7, 8 above, therefore are rejected by the same rationale.

Claims 17-21, 23, 24 contain similar limitations found in claims 9-13, 15, 16 above, therefore are rejected by the same rationale.

Regarding to claim 25, Swart discloses a data processing system for interfacing and interconnecting data between one or more independent software applications, comprising:

one or more data entry panels for entering data into the system by a data entry operator (column 3, lines 5-25 and column 6, lines 11-27; input terminal of the employee data client computer for entering human resource information);

one or more processors coupled to the system (figure 3, the employee data client computer 110, the third party client computer 120, the payroll client computer 130);

one or more independent software applications executable on the processors (column 3, lines 5-37; time and attendance software object, human resource software object executed at the employee data client computer; payroll software object executed at the payroll client computer).

a plurality of predetermined audit criteria for verifying the data before interfacing the data to the software applications (column 6, lines 43-53; verifying whether the earnings codes are used for jury duty, overtime, etc. and whether the absence codes are used for annual leave, sick leave, maternity leave, etc.);

a means for converting the data to a file format that is compatible with the software applications (column 6, lines 41-53; converting the data into a universal format understandable by the payroll processing system).

Swart does not teach wherein one of said independent software applications is an accounts payable program. However, Kahn teaches wherein one of said independent software applications is an accounts payable program (column 5, lines 47-60; the employees could elect to use the system as the centralized bill payment system; column 12, lines 45-60 and column 20, lines 34-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Swart to adopt the teaching of Kahn above for the purpose of providing more convenient and time consuming for the employee in making payments to the particular payees because the process is automatically done by the system.

Regarding to claim 26, Swart discloses a software product for processing time data and expense data, a software product comprising:

interconnectivity software operational when executed by a processor to direct the processor to receive the time data into a program module, store the time data in a time and expense database in the program module, receive the expense data into the program module, store the expense data in the time and expenses database (column 9, lines 30-37, 60-65; column 10, lines 5-15; the time and expense data stored in the database 160), transfer the time data from the time and expenses database to a payroll system (column 9, lines 20-24; providing shift completion information, pay amount information and pay deduction information to the payroll application server 150); and

a software storage medium operational to store the interconnectivity software (column 13, lines 43-50 65; the payroll software object).

Swart does not teach transfer the expense data from the time and expenses database to an accounts payable system. However, Kahn teaches transfer the expense data from the time and expenses database to an accounts payable system (column 5, lines 47-60; the employees could elect to use the system as the centralized bill payment system; column 12, lines 45-60 and column 20, lines 34-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Swart to adopt the teaching of Kahn above for the purpose of providing more convenient and time consuming for the employee in making payments to the particular payees because the process is automatically done by the system.

Regarding to claims 27-28, Swart further discloses wherein the interconnectivity software is operational when executed by the processor to direct the processor to verify the time and expense data in the program module (column 6, lines 43-53; verifying whether the earnings codes are used for jury duty, overtime, etc. and whether the absence codes are used for annual leave, sick leave, maternity leave, etc.).

Regarding to claim 29, Swart further discloses wherein the interconnectivity software is operational when executed by the processor to direct the processor to convert the time data into a format compatible with the payroll system (column 6, lines 41-53; converting the data into a universal format understandable by the payroll processing system).

Claims 30-33 contain similar limitations found in claims 26-29 above, therefore, are rejected by the same rationale.

Regarding to claim 34, Swart further discloses generating payment in the payroll system based on the time data (column 10, lines 10-20; calculating the net work segment pay):

Regarding to claim 35, Swart further discloses wherein transferring the time data comprises communicating between the program module and the payroll system (column 9, lines 1-5; the employee data client JavaBean 112 provides access to information from the time and attendance and the human resources computer systems).

Regarding to claims 36-37, Kahn further discloses wherein transferring the expense data comprises communicating between the program module and the accounts payable system; generating payment in the accounts payable system based on the expense data (column 5, lines 47-60; the employees could elect to use the system as the centralized bill payment system; column 12, lines 45-60 and column 20, lines 34-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Swart to adopt the teaching of Kahn above for the purpose of providing more convenient and time consuming for the employee in making payments to the particular payees because the process is automatically done by the system.

Regarding to claim 38, Swart further discloses transferring the time data from the payroll system to a projects system; and transferring the expense data from the

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accounts payable system to the projects system (column 3, lines 7-10; human resource software object).

Regarding to claim 39, Swart further discloses processing the time data and the expense data in the projects system to generate a report (column 3, lines 7-10; human resource software object).

Regarding to claim 40, Swart further discloses processing the time data and the expense data in a billing system to generate an invoice (column 54-65; the third party client computer system is operated to calculate the deductions).

Claims 41-49 contain similar limitations found in claims 26-29, 34, 37-40 above, therefore, are rejected by the same rationale.

Conclusion

6. Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-21 and 23-49 are rejected.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Nga B. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-6796. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:00AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung S. Sough can be reached on (571) 272-6799.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-3600.

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8. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

C/o Technology Center 3600

Washington, DC 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for formal communication intended for entry),


or

(571) 273-0325 (for informal or draft communication, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Knox building, 401 Dulany
Street, Alexandria, VA, First Floor (Receptionist).

Nga B. Nguyen


June 23, 2005